Moving to San Diego

A Guide to K-12 Education

Welcome to San Diego and Navy Region Southwest

- The School Liaison Officers are in place to serve as the central point of contact between Navy Region Southwest Commands and the school systems in the areas. The School Liaison Officer specializes in serving military students and parents and offers a wide spectrum of services to assist families. Our primary goals are to:
  - Help empower parents with information, giving them a choice in their child's educational future, in turn, making them their child's best advocate.
  - Help communicate with teachers, principals or other school personnel.
  - Help make referrals to appropriate DOE , military or civilian agencies.
  - Help parents in making their child's educational transition a smooth one in and out of San Diego.

Navy Region Southwest School Liaison Services

- Information on local schools and boundaries
- Assistance with school choice
- Home schooling regulations
- Inbound/outbound transfers
- Graduation requirements
- Schools & community outreach
- Understanding special education process
- Agency referrals
- College readiness
- Home school support

Unique to San Diego

As in any area, there are issues and situations that are unique to the San Diego area. Understanding these issues will help you make the best educational choices for your child.

- San Diego has 42 different school systems.
- The different school systems and even schools within those systems operate under different calendars. Schools can be year round, extended year, or traditional.
- The largest system, San Diego Unified, is a school of choice district. This means you do not *have* to attend the school you are districted to.
- Military housing has been privatized in most San Diego units. This is important to know because it will affect how your LES reads, and MAY in turn affect your ability to qualify for income based programs like Federal Lunch Program and state funded preschools.
- Transportation to and from school is not provided in all school districts. Be sure to contact your child's school to find out about school transportation services.

Shopping for Schools in San Diego County

San Diego has 42 different public school systems, and a variety of private schools options as well. When moving anywhere, you should always shop for schools before you shop for housing!

Step 1: Check out the boundary map on the San Diego County Office of Education Website. school made AYP, and to make sure they are not in improvement status.

http://www.sdcoe.net/boundarymap.asp

Step 2: Visit the "Shopping for Schools Online" link on the SDCOE website to research information about the quality of the districts and what they offer. Information is available on private schools on this site as well.

http://www.sdcoe.net/shopping.asp

Step 3: look for housing in an area where you found schools that will meet your child's needs. Lincoln Housing lists the schools that services their housing areas on their website. You will still need to check the boundaries map as some housing units are served by more than one school!
http://www.lpcmil.com/Installations/naval-complex-san-diego/

Step 4: Go back to the SDCOE website once you have suitable housing. Type the address in the boundary map to get your exact school.

http://www.sdcoe.net/boundaries.asp

Step 5: Check the specific school(s) on Ed-Data or Great Schools. Look specifically to see if the school has met AYP.

http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/welcome.asp

http://ayp.cde.ca.gov/reports/AcntRpt2007/2007AYPCo.aspx?cSelect=37,San,Diego

http://www.greatschools.net

San Diego County Office of Education

Schools & Districts

San Diego County School Districts
Quick Find District Web Sites
District Contact Information
San Diego Public Colleges

School Resources and Reference
Attendance Boundaries
California School Profiles from Ed-Data
California County Offices of Education
San Diego Charter Schools
San Diego Consolidated School Calendars
Shopping for a School Online
San Diego Approved Training Programs for Teacher Credentialing

http://www.sdcoe.net/schools.asp

Enrollment Options

San Diego Unified School District has a variety of school choice options in addition to your neighborhood schools.

- Magnet Programs: Available at 34 schools districtwide, Magnet programs offer in-depth studies in specific areas of study while meeting the California state curriculum standards.
- Open Enrollment: This offers parents the opportunity to apply to any school, but does not provide transportation.
- Program Improvement School Choice (PISC): The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act supports the district in providing enrollment options through Program Improvement School Choice.
- Voluntary Enrollment Exchange Program (VEEP): Students May voluntarily attend other schools than their resident schools. Transportation is provided.
- Other Opportunities: Additional programs such as the International Baccalaureate Program, K-8 Schools, a Virtual High School and many others.
- Read through the School Choice Catalog online, and then complete a School Choice Application (can be submitted online).

School Registration

Eligibility:

- Kindergarten: 5 on or before 12/2
- 1st: 6 on or before 12/2

Vaccination Requirements

- DtaP/DTP/TD 5 doses
- Polio – 4 doses
- MMR – 2 doses
- Hepatitis B – 3 doses
- Varicella – 1 dose

Documents:

- Birth certificate
- 2 proofs of residency
- Shot record
- Last report card

Graduation Requirements

Section 51225.3 states that all pupils receiving a diploma of graduation from a CA high school must complete all of the following while in grades nine to twelve, inclusive:

- Three courses in English.
- Two courses in mathematics, including one year of Algebra I beginning in 2003-04 (California *Education Code* Section 51224.5).
- Two courses in science, including biological and physical sciences.
- Three courses in social studies, including United States history and geography; world history, culture, and geography; a one-semester course in American government and civics, and a one-semester course in economics.
- One course in visual or performing arts or foreign language. For the purposes of satisfying the requirement specified in this subparagraph, a course in American Sign Language shall be deemed a course in foreign language.
- Two courses in physical education, unless the pupil has been exempted pursuant to the provisions of *Education Code* Section 51241.
- ***Other coursework as the governing board of the school district may by rule specify.***
- must pass California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) to receive a high school diploma.

State Attendance Policies

- Good attendance is very important to your child's success at school and good attendance habits should be formed early.
- California Education Laws require students to attend school regularly and punctually and holds parents accountable for ensuring their children follow the laws. The State recognizes on the following types of absences:
  - Acceptable – verified illness, medical appointment, jury service, funeral for immediate family member, court appearance, and religious holiday
  - Unacceptable – missing the school bus, truancy, oversleeping, ditching, cutting class, or any other self-initiated absence (i.e. comp leave)
- Ask the school about enrolling your student in Short Term Independent Study for expected absences of 5 or ore days to avoid loss of academic credit.
- Contact your child's school about any concern regarding their attendance. In all instances, it's generally a good idea to write down the name and position of the person you spoke with as well as the time and date in case questions should arise later

Special Education Resources

- Navy Exceptional Family Member Program
  - http://www.cnrsw.navy.mil/fsc/efm.asp
  - EFMP Coordinators
    - MCRD: Call (619) 524-6078
    - Navy: Call (619) 532-8586.
- San Diego County Office of Education
  - http://www.sdcoe.net/ssp/speced/?loc=home
- San Diego Unified School District
  - http://www.sandi.net/depts/specialed/

- An Ombudsperson is available to assist families and staff with the following: Responding to parent and staff inquiries, Informing and clarifying parents of their rights, Investigating complaints, Assisting parents with regard to the Individualized Education Program/Individualized Family Service Plan (IEP/IFSP) and 504 Individualized Service Plan meetings, filing complaints and hearing requests, Acting as a liaison between district, parents and community organizations.
  - Special Education Ombudsperson: Lora Keller lkeller@sandi.net(619) 725-8186 - Phone
  - Special Education Ombudsperson: Richard Miller rmiller3@sandi.net(619) 725-8187 – Phone

State Standards & Testing

- http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/stand/sbestd.html
- http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/index.asp
- Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR)
  - Administration of the STAR program. Test results are used for student and school accountability purposes.
  - Testing Results: http://star.cde.ca.gov/

School Calendars

- There are a variety of school calendars in the San Diego County school districts.
  - Traditional
  - Year-Round
  - Modified Year Round
  - Extended Year
- The SDCOE website has a listing of all calendars in the county.
  - http://www.sdcoe.net/business2/dfs/?loc=pupil-calendar&m=8&pi=acct

Home Schooling in San Diego

- First approach: Establish a private school
  - Annual affidavit filed between Oct 1-15
  - “capable of teaching”
  - 175 days, 3 hours/day, must be between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm
  - Must maintain attendance register
  - Instruction must be in English
- Second approach: Hire a Private Tutor
  - Teacher must be certificated
  - 175 days, 3 hours/day, between 8:00-4:00
- Third approach: Use a public school independent service program or charter school (ISP)
  - Teacher certification not required
  - Attendance, recordkeeping are as required by program
  - School/program does reporting
- Fourth approach: Enroll in independent study through a private school
  - Teacher must be capable of teaching
  - Attendance, recordkeeping are as required by school
  - School/program does reporting

Home Schooling in San Diego

Home School Organizations

http://www.hslda.org/orgs/default.asp?State=CA&County=San+Diego

The Learning Choice Academy San Diego, CA –

The Learning Choice Academy (TLC) is a California charter school dedicated to assist parents who school their children at home. TLC provides books and instructional materials, a certified teacher to work in partnership with parents, special student allowance for enrichment classes, field trips and other activities, including: Science Labs, Math Labs, a full-day option of student classes as well as a wide variety of other services. Because it is a public-funded school, ALL OF THESE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED FREE!

http://www.learningchoice.org/index.html

Helpful Links

- **San Diego County Schools & Districts:**
  - http://www.sdcoe.net/schools.asp
- **California State Standards & Framework:**
  - http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/index.asp
- **California Home-schooling Regulations:**
  - http://www.homeedmag.com/lawregs/california.html
- **San Diego Area Military Housing:**
  - http://www.lincolnmilitary.com/sandiego/index.php
- Learning Disabilities Association of California (LDACA)
  - **http://www.ldaca.org/**
- **9th District PTA**
  - http://www.ninthdistrictpta.org/
- **California NCLB information**
  - http://www.cde.ca.gov/nclb/
- **Ed-Data (Data on CA Public Schools)**
  - http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/welcome.asp

Smooth Transitions Checklist

- Course Description Book
- School Profile
- Attendance and Tardy Records
- Report Card
- Current Schedule
- Withdrawal Grades
- Transcript/Course History (with grading system
-)Class Rank
- Cumulative Folder
- Testing Information - Standardized Test Scores, End of Course Test Scores, Competency Test Scores
- Health Records (including Shot Records)
- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Number
- Activities Record (such as co/extracurricular)IEP/504/Gifted Records
- JROTC Records
- Guardianship/custody
- Alternative Schools Records
- Letters of Recommendations (especially for senior students)
- Writing Samples (if available)
- At-Risk or Action Plans for classroom modifications (if available) Portfolios (if available)
- Accelerated Reader Points (if available)
- Service Learning Hours (if available)

School Liaison Officers

Navy Region Southwest

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